

CLAIMS

1. Process for reconditioning a hermetic package (12) containing water (14P) and at least one live aquatic animal (16), in particular intended for aquariums, the aim being to extend the 5 maximum duration of transportation while keeping the animal alive, characterized in that it comprises at least the following steps, which consist in:

(a) opening the package (12) to access the water (14P) contained in it since the initial packing;

10 (b) replacing all or some of the polluted transportation water (14P) with an unpolluted reconditioning water (26) prepared in such a way as to present physical and chemical parameters analogous to those of the polluted water (14P), and in particular at least a substantially identical pH value;

15 (c) re-closing the package (12) in a leaktight manner in order to permit a further stage of transportation.

2. Reconditioning process according to Claim 1, characterized in that it comprises a step (b1) of characterizing the polluted transportation water (14P), which step comprises 20 measuring different physical and chemical parameters of the polluted transportation water (14P) to be replaced, in such a way as to determine those of the reconditioning water (26) to be prepared.

3. Reconditioning process according to Claim 2, 25 characterized in that the different physical and chemical parameters for preparation of the reconditioning water (26) according to step (b1) are determined from a table of known values which are a function of the animal and/or of the place of initial packing.

30 4. Reconditioning process according to either of Claims 2 and 3, characterized in that it comprises a step (b2) of preparing the reconditioning water (26), comprising at least one of the following operations:

- purifying freshwater from a network of drinking water, or seawater, by all suitable treatments;
- measuring and modifying the physical and chemical parameters of the reconditioning water (26) in such a way as to 5 obtain parameters analogous to those of the polluted transportation water (14P).

10 5. Reconditioning process according to Claim 4, characterized in that the physical and chemical parameters of the reconditioning water (26) which are measured and modified include the temperature and/or the electrical conductivity.

15 6. Reconditioning process according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the reconditioning water (26) contains at least one additive product for neutralizing all or some of the ammonia produced regularly by the animal, in such a way as to delay the onset of the phenomenon of acidosis of the water.

20 7. Reconditioning process according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the reconditioning water (26) contains at least one additive product capable of releasing oxygen over time, so as to re-oxygenate the water and delay the onset of the phenomenon of anoxia.

25 8. Reconditioning process according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that it comprises a subsidiary step (c1) prior to closure, consisting in oxygen enrichment of the free volume (18) of the package (12) above the reconditioned water (14R).

9. Installation (10) for implementation of the reconditioning process according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that it comprises:

30 - at least one tank (28) for preparation of the reconditioning water (26);

- means (42) for creating a permanent circulation of water, such as a mixer and/or a pump;

- means (34) for regulating the temperature of the reconditioning water (26);
- means (40) for measuring and automatically correcting the pH of the reconditioning water (26);
- 5 - means (46) for measuring and automatically correcting the electrical conductivity.

10 10. Installation (10) for implementation of the reconditioning process according to Claim 9, characterized in that it comprises at least one tank for storage of the reconditioning water, comprising means for creating a permanent circulation of water and/or means for regulating the temperature of the reconditioning water, and/or means for measuring and automatically correcting the pH of the reconditioning water, and/or means for measuring and automatically correcting the electrical conductivity.

15 11. Installation (10) for implementation of the reconditioning process according to Claim 9, characterized in that it comprises specific lighting means and/or means of monitoring and regulating the temperature of the ambient air so as to favour 20 the housing of the aquatic animals (16).